



August 26, 2008

The State of California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) is soliciting applications for membership in its Client and Family Leadership Committee.

The Client and Family Leadership Committee ("Committee") ensures that the perspective and participation of those affected by mental illnesses and their family members are a significant factor in all MHSOAC decisions and recommendations. This Committee has specific focus on clients/consumers, family members and caregivers of traditionally underserved communities.

To ensure a variety of engaged voices and perspectives the Committee's leadership encourages California residents to apply who have lived experience of the effects of mental illnesses, either personally or through family members (including young children and older adults). *We are especially seeking individuals from smaller California counties, rural regions and traditionally under-represented communities to contribute their unique perspectives to this important group.*

The Committee is comprised of mental health services consumers/clients, parents of children diagnosed with serious emotional disorders and family members. Individuals from the following groups are especially encouraged to apply:

- Client/consumer (past or present) of public mental health services
- Transitional age youth (16-25)
- Family members/significant others
- Parents or caregivers of minor children or older adults
- Educators
- Providers of mental health services
- People of diverse ethnic, racial, cultural communities (including sexual minorities)
- People with disabilities (in addition to psychiatric disabilities)

Commitments of selected Committee members are as follows:

- Attend a minimum of 75% of Committee meetings in person or by teleconference
- Attend at least one MHSOAC general meeting per year in person
- Contribute to Committee work products, including review, feedback and writing of recommendations, position papers, etc.
- Participate and communicate with Committee members between meetings on Committee business and/or work product
- Advance the vision, goals and work of the Committee in their local communities

MHSOAC
Client Family Leadership Committee
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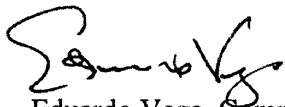
Committee members' travel and expenses for meeting participation will be reimbursed by MHSOAC. No additional remuneration is associated with Committee membership.


Interested parties are encouraged to submit the attached application (also available at <http://www.dmh.cahwnet.gov/MHSOAC/default.asp>) by fax to 916.445.4927, as an email attachment to Nicole.Behler@dmh.ca.gov , or by U.S Postal mail to:
Nicole Behler, MHSOAC, 1300 17th Street Suite 1000, Sacramento, CA 95811.

Applicants may be asked to be available for an interview by phone. Applications that are favorably reviewed but not selected for Committee membership will be retained on file for one year.

For questions and information please phone Nicole Behler at 916-445-8696.

Thank you for your interest and attention.


Eduardo Vega, Commissioner
Chair


Darlene Prettyman, Commissioner
Co-Chair